

Application No.: 10/752,208
Amendment dated December 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 10, 2005

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments, and consideration of the application, as amended.

By this Amendment, the Applicants canceled claims 11-20 and introduced new claims 21-30. No claims were narrowed by these amendments and no new matter was introduced.

Claims 1-10 and 21-30 are now pending in this application.

Response to Restriction with Traverse

In the above-referenced Office Action, the Patent Office requested that the Applicants restrict examination to one of the following two inventions:

- I. Claims 1-10, drawn to a storage container, classified in class 312, subclass 316; and
- II. Claims 11-20, drawn to a hinge assembly, classified in class 16, subclass 389.

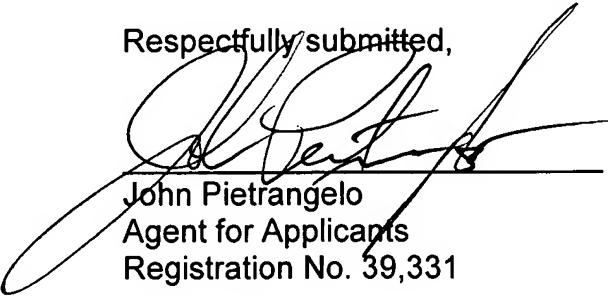
The Applicants respectfully respond to this Restriction with traverse. The Applicants submit that it would not be an undue burden on the Patent Office to examine inventions I and II in a single proceeding. However, to comply with the above Restriction, with the above amendment, the Applicants elect invention I for prosecution at this time. New claims 21-30 are dependent upon claim 1.

The Applicants believe that the above amendment places the application in allowable form. An early and favorable action on the merits of the application is requested.

Application No.: 10/752,208
Amendment dated December 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 10, 2005

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, the Applicants' undersigned Agent invite the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



John Pietrangelo
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 39,331

Dated: December 8, 2005.

HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY & MESITI P.C.
5 Columbia Circle
Albany, New York 12203-5160
Telephone: (518) 452-5600
Facsimile: (518) 452-5579